Coverage of National Level Tournaments on National Hook-up by Doordarshan

1763. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan has decided long back to give coverage to National level tournaments on National hook-up to promote sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is being executed properly?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Doordarshan is giving adequate coverage to all major sports events whose telecast rights are available with it either live or on deferred basis depending upon the venue, availability of time slots and importance/popularity of the events.

Censor board to regulate foreign TV channels

1764. SHRI O.S. MANIAN:
SHRI R. MARGABANDU:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to regulate foreign TV channels being telecast in India;

(b) if so, whether Government have set up a Censor Board to go through all the programmes and advertisements of such foreign TV channels before they are telecast in India;

(c) whether Government propose to issue guidelines to the foreign satellite channel authorities to suitably modify the programme for telecasting them in India; and

(d) whether Government will provide for some punitive measures for pulling up the erring TV channels?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (d) Government intends to introduce a bill in the Parliament which would seek to bring the foreign satellite channels within the ambit of the proposed law and inter-alia provide for application of broadcasting and advertising code on such satellite channels.

स्थानीय आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन केन्द्रों के उन्नयन हेतु कदम उठाये जाना

1765. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार द्वारा देश में स्थानीय आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन केन्द्रों के उन्नयन के लिये क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं;

(ख) 31 दिसम्बर, 1996 तक मध्य प्रदेश में इस संबंध में क्या विशेष कदम उठाये गये हैं; और

(ग) चालू योजना की शेष अवधि के लिये इस संबंध में क्या कार्यक्रम तैयार किये गये हैं?

नागर विमानन मंत्री तथा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री सी० एम० इब्राहीम): (क) से (ग) एक स्थानीय रेडियो केन्द्र सीमित क्षेत्र, मुख्यतया एक अकेले जिले अथवा उसके एक प्रमुख भाग को कवर करता है। वह क्षेत्र दो स्तरीय रेडियो कवरेज नामतः राजधानी/क्षेत्रीय केन्द्रों से प्राइमरी ग्रेड कवरेज और स्थानीय रेडियो केन्द्रों से स्थानीय सेवा प्राप्त करता है। दिसम्बर, 96 तक मध्य प्रदेश में 8 स्थानीय रेडियो केन्द्र स्थापित किए गए हैं। आकाशवाणी द्वारा उपलब्ध करवायी गई दो स्तरीय रेडियो कवरेज को ध्यान में रखते हुए वर्तमान में कोई उन्नयन अपेक्षित नहीं है।

जहां तक दूरदर्शन का संबंध है, दो स्टूडियो/केन्द्रों के अलावा मध्य प्रदेश में 31 दिसम्बर, 1996 तक विभिन्न क्षमताओं के 73 ट्रांसमीटर स्थापित किए गए हैं। वर्ष 1997-98 के अन्त तक विभिन्न क्षमताओं के 16 टेलीविजन ट्रांसमीटर चरणबद्ध रूप से चालू किए जाने की संभावना है, जो संसाधनों, आधारभूत सुविधाओं की

उपलब्धता, पारस्परिक प्राथमिकताओं तथा प्राप्त स्वीकृतियों पर निर्भर करता है।

Review of external services of air

1766. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION & BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any critical review of the external services of the AIR to know its performance in presenting to the global audience Government's viewpoint in national and international issues besides moulding world opinion on political propaganda by Pakistan against India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to strengthen the external services of the AIR?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Constant review of the broadcast of external services of All India Radio is being done to ensure that Government's stand on national and international issues are projected properly through news bulletins, commentaries and press reviews in order to mould world opinion and to counter the political propaganda by Pakistan against India.

(c) Several steps have been taken to strengthen the external services of All India Radio and these include commissioning of four additional shortwave transmitters of 500 kW each at Bangalore, two shortwave transmitters of 250 KW each at Panaji and setting up of seven shortwave transmitters in replacement of old transmitters at Delhi and Aligarh.

Proposal to enact Uniform Code of Court Fees Act

1767. SHRI R. MARGABANDU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to enact Uniform Code of Court Fees Act to all the States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Amendment in section 159 of the RPA

1768. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Electoral Officers have sought changes in Section 159 of the Representation of the People Act so that the Commission can be empowered to deploy employees of the Banks, PSUs and the staff of the Central School for election duty;

(b) whether Government have got the matter examined; and

(c) if so, with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The proposal to amend section 159 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 is included amongst the proposals on electoral Reforms which are being discussed by the Government with the political parties.